

Notice of Dental Board Elections - 2014

Greetings to all Maryland licensed dentists and dental hygienists:

It is once again time to hold elections for membership on the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners. As was the case last year, dentists and dental hygienists are urged to consider becoming a Board member and to vote for candidates on-line. The Board has contracted with *Election Trust, LLC* to conduct the on-line balloting.

Board members are appointed by the Governor for 4-year terms. They may be reappointed by the Governor for a second 4-year term. The Governor appoints the dentist and dental hygienist Board members, with the advice of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene from a list of names submitted to the Governor by the Board. Those names appearing on the list submitted to the Governor are those whose names appeared on the ballot. Each candidate's name will be submitted to the Governor along with the number of votes he or she received. The Governor is not obligated to appoint or re-appoint any individual who received the greatest number of votes.

For the 2014 election for dentists there will be 3 vacant positions: Dr. Edna Street-Jones and Dr. Billy Brooks Woodward have concluded their second 4-year terms as Board members and are not eligible for reappointment. Dr. Ronald F. Moser has completed his first 4-year term and is eligible for reappointment. Since there are 3 vacancies each dentist will be permitted to cast a vote for 3 candidates.

For the 2014 election for dental hygienists there will be 1 vacant position: Cheryl Bruce, R.D.H. will be concluding her first 4-year term as a Board member and is eligible for reappointment. Voting will therefore be for the 1 position. Since there is 1 vacancy each dental hygienist will be permitted to cast a vote for 1 candidate.

Those who have an e-mail address on file with the Board will be sent an e-mail solicitation to vote. You will receive a 7-character alpha-numeric PIN and secure web address that will allow you to vote from any computer. If you do not have an e-mail address on file with the Board, or if you do but wish to vote with a paper ballot you will be permitted to do so. You will be able to obtain a paper ballot by calling Ms. Sharon Gregg-Jones, Board Fiscal Analyst, at 410-402-8506. The paper ballot must be returned to *Election Trust, LLC* (not the Board).

There will be separate elections for dentists and dental hygienists. Please note that in order to become a candidate you must first be nominated. You may download a Nomination Petition Form for Dentists or a Nomination Petition Form for Dental Hygienists from the Board's website at www.dhmfh.maryland.gov/dental/sitepages/home.aspx. Look for the "Dental Board Elections – 2014" link. You may also call Ms. Gregg-Jones and request that a form be mailed to you. Only dentists may nominate and vote for dentists, and only dental hygienists may nominate and vote for dental hygienists. Please note that a nomination petition form is invalid if it does not contain 10 supporting signatures, contains signatures of those who do not qualify to support the nomination, or is not filed in a timely manner. A curriculum vitae must also accompany the Nomination Petition Form submitted to the Board. Note: Your curriculum vitae will appear on the website of *Election Trust, LLC*. Therefore, only include information that you wish the public

to view. Do not include your home address, home telephone number, date of birth, or other personal identifying information.

Please note that in addition to the Nomination Petition Form and curriculum vitae you must also complete both the Biographical Information Form and the Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form. Both forms may be found on the Board's website. Attached to the Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form is a memorandum from the State Ethics Commission. Questions about the Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form should be directed to the State Ethics Commission at 410-260-7770. Both forms must be forwarded to Ms. Kimberly Bennardi, Administrator, DHMH Office of Appointments and Executive Nominations along with a copy of your curriculum vitae. Ms. Bennardi's contact information may be found on the last page of both forms. **Please do not forward either form to the Dental Board.** Doing so will only delay the consideration process.

A dentist Board member must meet the qualifications contained in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, § 4-202(c). It states:

Each dentist Board member:

- (1) Shall be an individual of recognized ability and honor;
- (2) Shall be a practicing holder of a general license to practice dentistry who has practiced dentistry actively in this State for at least 5 years immediately before appointment;
- (3) Shall be a resident of this State; and
- (4) In the case of a Board member belonging to an association whose members are regulated by the Board, may not be:
 - (i) An officer of the association;
 - (ii) A member of the association's governing board or committee;
 - (iii) A member of the association's House of Delegates; or
 - (iv) A voting member of a committee of the association that contributes to the establishment of governmental, regulatory, or legislative policy objectives of the association.

A dental hygienist Board member must meet the qualifications contained in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, § 4-202(d). It states:

Each dental hygienist Board member:

- (1) Shall be a practicing holder of a general license to practice dental hygiene who has practiced dental hygiene actively in this State for at least 3 years immediately before appointment;
- (3) Shall be a resident of this State; and
- (4) In the case of a Board member belonging to an association whose members are regulated by the Board, may not be:
 - (i) An officer of the association;
 - (ii) A member of the association's governing board or committee;
 - (iii) A member of the association's House of Delegates; or
 - (iv) A voting member of a committee of the association that contributes to the establishment of governmental, regulatory, or legislative policy objectives of the association.

State dental organizations affiliated with a national organization, and State dental hygienist organizations affiliated with a national organization may nominate a single candidate if they meet certain criteria and properly register with the Board. If the organization has previously registered it need not re-register. State dental organizations affiliated with a national

organization, and State dental hygienist organizations affiliated with a national organization that have not previously registered may go to the Board's website to obtain the appropriate registration form. The following organizations have previously registered with the Board and need not re-register: the Maryland Academy of General Dentistry, the Maryland Dental Hygienists' Association, the Maryland Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and the Maryland State Dental Association.

Please note the following important dates:

April 7, 2014: Last day for a State dental organization affiliated with a national organization to register with the Board and the last day for a State dental hygienist organization affiliated with a national organization to register with the Board.

April 14, 2014: Last day to file a Dentist Nomination Petition Form, or a Dental Hygienist Nomination Petition Form. Your curriculum vitae must accompany the form. This is also the last day for a properly registered State dental organization affiliated with a national organization, and a State dental hygienist organization affiliated with a national organization to file a nomination petition form.

April 16, 2014 at 10:00 AM: During the Open Session Meeting interested dentist and dental hygienist nominees are invited to appear at the Board and provide a brief presentation to the Board regarding their qualifications. There will be a brief question and answer period by the Board following the presentation. Any member of the public may attend. The Board is located at the Spring Grove Hospital Center, Benjamin Rush Building, 55 Wade Avenue / Tulip Drive, Catonsville, Maryland, 21228.

April 21, 2014: Those of you with e-mail addresses on file with the Board will be sent an e-mail solicitation to vote from the Board. The address of the e-mail will be that of *Election Trust, LLC*. The e-mail will contain a 7- character alpha-numeric PIN and secure web address that will allow you to vote from any computer. Once you have voted you will be able to download an acknowledgement of your vote. If you wish to use a paper ballot you must contact Ms. Sharon Gregg-Jones, Fiscal Analyst at 410-402-8506. The paper ballot must be returned to *Election Trust, LLC*, not the Board.

April 21, 2014 – May 2, 2014: Dates on which you must submit your e-mail ballot.

May 2, 2014: Last day for *Election Trust, LLC* to receive your paper ballot. The paper ballot must be received by *Election Trust, LLC* by mail on or before May 2, 2014 ***regardless of its postmark***. It is suggested that your paper ballot be in the mail no later than April 24, 2014. Return the paper ballot to ***Election Trust, LLC, P.O. Box 1902, Bellevue, WA 98009.***

The Board will post the results of the elections on its website soon after it receives the results of the election from *Election Trust, LLC*.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This notice has been mailed to each Maryland licensed dentist and dental hygienist to the address they maintain with the Board. It is your notice of the election.

Because of the nature of computers and their security measures some dentists and dental hygienists may not receive the e-mail solicitation to vote. If you have an e-mail address on file with the Board and you have not received an e-mail solicitation to vote by **April 22, 2014**, you must call Ms. Sharon Gregg-Jones immediately. She will arrange for you to either cast an e-mail ballot or a paper ballot.

E-mail ballots cannot be accepted after May 2, 2014.

Paper ballots cannot be accepted after May 2, 2014 regardless of its postmark.

Document Summary

The documents listed below may be found on the Dental Board's website at www.dhmf.maryland.gov/dental/sitepages/home.aspx. Once on the website open the link titled "Dental Board Elections – 2014." Then open the appropriate sub-link. If you are a dentist open the "Dentists" sub-link, and if you are a dental hygienist open the "Dental Hygienists" sub-link, etc.

Dentists

Nomination Petition Form and Curriculum Vitae: The Nomination Petition Form and your curriculum vitae must be received by the Board on or before April 14, 2014.

Biographical Information Form, Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form, and Curriculum Vitae: The Biographical Information Form, the Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form, and your curriculum vitae must be completed by all dentist candidates and forwarded to Ms. Kimberly Bennardi by April 14, 2014.

Dental Hygienists

Nomination Petition Form and Curriculum Vitae: The Nomination Petition Form and your curriculum vitae must be received by the Board on or before April 14, 2014.

Biographical Information Form, Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form, and Curriculum Vitae: The Biographical Information Form, the Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form, and your curriculum vitae must be completed by all dental hygienist candidates and forwarded to Ms. Kimberly Bennardi by April 14, 2014.

State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization

Registration Form for State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization:

Must be received by the Board on or before April 7, 2014. This form is not required for those dental organizations listed above that have previously registered. Only one registration is required for all elections.

Nomination Petition Form for State Dental Organizations Affiliated with a National

Organization: Must be received by the Board on or before April 14, 2014. Only State dental organizations that have registered with the Board may submit a nomination petition form.

State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National Organization

Registration Form for State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a National

Organization: Must be received by the Board on or before April 7, 2014. This form is not required for those dental hygienist organizations listed above that have previously registered. Only one registration is required for all elections.

Nomination Petition Form for State Dental Hygienist Organizations Affiliated with a

National Organization: Must be received by the Board on or before April 14, 2014. Only state dental hygienist organizations that have registered with the Board may submit a nomination petition form.

As stated above all dentist and dental hygienist candidates should forward the completed Biographical Information Form, the Appointee Exemption Form and a copy of their curriculum vitae to Ms. Kimberly Bennardi at the address on the last page of the Biographical Information Form by April 14, 2014. With the exception of paper ballots, all other forms should be mailed or hand delivered to Ms. Bonita McFadden, Election Coordinator, Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners, Spring Grove Hospital Center, Benjamin Rush Building, 55 Wade Avenue / Tulip Drive, Catonsville, Maryland 21228 during normal business hours. Ms. McFadden can be reached at 410-402-8503. **Because of the time constraints it is highly recommended that all Board forms be hand-delivered.**

Requests for paper ballots should be directed to Ms. Sharon Gregg-Jones at 410-402-8506. The paper ballots must be mailed to *Election Trust, LLC*.

Summary: *Dentists and dental hygienists: Nomination Petition Form and curriculum vitae should be delivered to Ms. Bonita McFadden at the Dental Board in a timely manner. Biographical Information Form, Appointee Exemption Disclosure Form, and curriculum vitae should be delivered to Ms. Kim Bennardi at the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Requests for paper ballots should be directed to Ms. Sharon Gregg-Jones. Paper ballots must be returned to Election Trust, Inc. in a timely manner.*

The Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners is your Board. We urge you to actively participate in the election process.

Sincerely,
Ngoc Q. Chu, D.D.S.
President
Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners